

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 1 AUGUST 2021

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by [your name, call sign and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at www.sarl.org.za while the text bulletin can be downloaded from <https://sarlnewsbulletin.wordpress.com/>. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary.

In the news today:

THE SARL HF PHONE CONTEST THIS AFTERNOON

SARL NEXT GENERATION BEACON FUND STANDS AT R24 700

and

THE AUGUST 2021 RADIO ZS

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

We begin this bulletin with the news of five Silent Keys:

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Bernd Kindler, ZR6KDL went silent on Thursday 1 July 2021. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Liesel, his daughter and three sons, family, and friends.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Andre Smith, ZS6OM went silent on Thursday 15 July 2021 at the age of 80 after losing the battle against cancer. He was a member of the Rustenburg Branch for many years but was no longer active. We extend our sincere condolences to his brother Deon, ZS6RFI, family, and friends.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Garnett Gould, ZS6ZTJ, ex ZS6ZT and ZS5ZT went silent on Sunday 25 July 2021. We extend our sincere condolences to his daughter Lorelle, family, and friends.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Simon Prinsloo, ZS6SLP went silent on Sunday 25 July 2021. We extend our sincere condolences to his family, and friends.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the key of Shaun Cullen, ZS5C went silent on Wednesday 28 July 2021. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Lynn, family, and friends.

PAUSE

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

THE SARL HF PHONE CONTEST THIS AFTERNOON

The aim of the HF Phone Contest is for participants to contact as many radio amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on 20, 40 and 80 metres. The HF Phone contest runs from 14:00 to 17:00 UTC (16:00 to 19:00 CAT) this afternoon Sunday 1 August 2021. The exchange is an RS report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. You can take part as a Single Operator Single Radio - Single Band, or a Single Operator Single Radio - All Band station with the overlays ‘Young Lady’ and ‘Youth.’ You and fellow amateurs or your Club can take part as a Multi Operator Single Band or a Multi-Operator All Band station. Submit your log in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel spreadsheet by 23:59 CAT on Friday 6 August 2021 by e-mail to zs4bfm@mweb.co.za. Get all the rules on page 86 of the 2021 Blue Book.

AMSAT SA SPACE SYMPOSIUM VIDEOS

The first two AMSAT SA Space Symposium videos are now available on YouTube. Follow the links from www.amsatsa.org.za. Others will follow soon.

SARL NEXT GENERATION BEACON FUND STANDS AT R24 700

AMSAT SA started the crowdfunding initiative to collect funds for the SARL Next Generation Beacon programme. The R24 700 collected to date is far from the R60 000 target to finance a beacon in the Karoo and the Western Cape. Good progress is being made on a site in the Karoo with a MOU about to be signed between the SARL, the owner of the farm and a company that manages the tower facilities.

At the monthly meeting held on Thursday 29 July, the Beacon group discussed various aspects and plans to fit the Bethlehem beacon and all future beacons with a telemetry and remote-control system. To stay up to date with the beacon programme, listen to Brian Jacobs’s “Focus on VHF and above” transmitted weekly on the Amateur Radio Today programme.

AMSAT SA and the SARL thank all who have contributed. Help us make it happen by donating to the fund and reach the target of R60 000 over the next month. Visit www.amsatsa.org.za and make your contribution by clicking on one of the payment buttons for a R50, R250, or R1 000 donation. The button will take you to the Payfast website where you need to enter your debit or credit card details. Please also add your call sign after your surname. Visit the Next Generation Beacon web page for articles, videos, updates and a list of donors. There are links on the SARL and AMSAT SA home pages.

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MORE SLOW-SCAN TV TRANSMISSIONS FROM RS0ISS SCHEDULED

On Friday and Saturday 6 and 7 August, Russian cosmonauts onboard the International Space Station (ISS) will transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) images from the station on 145,800 MHz FM. They will use SSTV mode PD-120. The announced schedule is 10:50 to 19:10 UTC on 6 August and 09:50 to 15:55 UTC on 7 August. Dates and times are subject to change.

THE AUGUST 2021 RADIO ZS

The August 2021 Radio ZS was uploaded to the SARL website on Thursday 29 July. Johan, ZS1RX tells you how to capture those SSTV images from the ISS and we look at amateur radio helping lifelong hobbyists stay mentally fit in old age! From the August 1975 Radio ZS, we reprint “Small Loops for the Lower Frequencies,” in RaDAR News Adele, ZS5APT and Eddie, ZS6BNE give feedback on the July RaDAR Challenge, we look at non-motorised Pedestrian Carts for on the air activities and the All Africa Award. There is a Low Power HF Triplexer to build, find out about the 2021 Southern African Lighthouse Award and there are two articles using balloons to get your field day antenna into the air. Follow the link on the front page of the League website.

CONTEST NEWS

Eight logs were received for the Winter QRP Contest held on Saturday 17 July 2021. Two newbie youth stations, Bryce, ZU1BM and Kiara, ZU1ISS participated. They set up a field station and were assisted by their father Phil, ZS1WW, who is himself a newbie. Great job, guys.

1st Kobus Boshoff, ZS6BOS – 243 points

2nd Johannes Van Zijl, ZS4DZ – 33 points

3rd Danie Schnetler, ZS6DPS and the West Rand ARC, ZS6WR – 24 points

Sixteen logs were received for the 2021 ZS2 Sprint held on Sunday 18 July 2021.

1st Michael Steenkamp, ZS2MIC – 79 points

2nd Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society, ZS2PE - 57 points

3rd Gert Schoeman, ZS2GS - 48 points

Twenty-five logs were received for the fourth SARL Wednesday 80 m sprint and the participants made 181 QSOs.

1st The West Rand ARC – 249 points (11 logs)

2nd The Boland ARC – 160 points (6 logs)

3rd The Bloemfontein ARC – 54 points (1 log)

The individual scores

1st Andre, ZS1AN - 59 points

2nd Andre, ZS4AW - 54 points

3rd Hans, ZS6KR - 50 points

All the scores have been published in HF Happenings 957.

ZULULAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AGM

At the AGM of the Zululand Amateur Radio Club, held on 25 July 2021 on ZOOM, the following Committee members were elected.

Chairman: Jan Erasmus, ZS5G

Vice Chairman: Andre Rheder, ZS5AW

Treasurer: Willie Axford, ZS5WI

Secretary: Ian Brown, ZS5IGB

Newsletter Editor: Jo Snyders, ZS5JO

We wish them well during their term of office and thank the outgoing members for their hard work during their term of office.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels. There are currently no active sunspot regions visible. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around two. The 17 to 30 m bands will during the late afternoons provide some DX fun. For more information, please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

This afternoon – The SARL HF Phone Contest

9 August – National Woman's Day and the SARL YL Sprint

12 August – International Youth Day

12 and 13 August – The Perseids meteor showers

14 August – The SARL Youth Sprint

14 and 15 August – The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

15 August – The SARL HF Digital Contest

17 August – The PEARS and Border ARC meetings

21 August – The Magalies and Highway ARCs meeting

21 and 22 August – The International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

28 August – The CTARC meeting and the SARL 40 m Grid Square sprint

29 August – The SARL HF CW Contest

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our leading story:

The HF Phone contest runs from 14:00 to 17:00 UTC (16:00 to 19:00 CAT) this afternoon Sunday 1 August 2021 with activity on the 20, 40 and 80 m bands. The exchange is an RS report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. Please read the rules before the contest begins.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to be included in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio programme, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower side-band by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY, can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments, and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to artoday@sarl.org.za.

You have listened to a news bulletin compiled by Dennis Green, ZS4BS, edited by Herman Erasmus, ZS6CTA and read by

From the News Team, best wishes for the week ahead.